NETL Community Interest Group Meeting Morgantown, West Virginia B26 - Room G5A/B July 23rd 6:30 - 8:00 PM

ATTENDEES:

Larry Bissett, NETL, ST-30
Bob Clonch, NETL, BL-70
Julie Cryser
James Frisk
Marlene Fullmer
Rose McGrath, NETL, EG-01
Mark McKoy, NETL, BL-40
Florence Merrow, City Council
Alice Murphy, NETL, DI-01
Mark Reaser
Shaunda Rauch
Julie Cryser
Mary Sneckenberger
Jan Wachter, NETL, BL-40

Meeting Minutes

Facilitator Bob Clonch opened the meeting and asked those in attendance to introduce themselves. Bob passed out an agenda. Dr. Larry Bissett provided an update on the HGD-PDU and handed out a status sheet. L. Bissett summarized the activities over the past year noting that the first truck load of sulfuric acid was received on-site and that delivery was scheduled to avoid school bus operating schedules as agreed to at an earlier CIG meeting. L. Bissett also noted that the first shakedown testing for the PDU is planned for August with operational testing scheduled for the October-November timeframe.

Questions and Answers on the PDU

Visitor M. Reaser asked if the PDU test schedule would follow the schedule provided earlier.

L. Bissett answered affirmatively noting that no substantive changes were anticipated. The shakedown test was expected to last no more than five days, and that the normal operational tests would last a maximum of ten days.

Visitor J. Cryser asked if the neighbors would notice the PDU when it was operating.

L. Bissett noted that the flare (fired on natural gas) would be the most noticeable indicator of operations. It would be "pretty bright", but would not be noisy. The flare would be most noticeable at night.

Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked if the project would be run by NETL or offsite people like EG&G.

L. Bissett answered that employees of Parsons would operate the PDU under DOE's oversight.

Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked how many people would be operating the PDU

L. Bissett answered that we run 12-hours shifts with 7 or 8 people per shift. Each shift would have a Shift Supervisor.

Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked if safety was embedded in the operating plan.

L. Bissett answered affirmatively.

Visitor F. Merrow asked about the total employment of the site.

Alice answered around 550 Federal employees and 600 contractors for both NETL sites. This was clarified to around 250 Federal employees and 265 contractors at the MGN campus.

Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked about the end of the site contracts.

Jan answered that the contracts were completing their 3rd base year and has ~ two years to go.

Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked about the plans for the continuity should Parsons not be awarded a new contract.

Alice noted that normally, if the contractor changes, only the top managers are changed out but that the trained workforce continues under the new contractor.

There being no further questions on the PDU, Dr. Jan Wachter made a presentation on the NETL plans to expand the current facilities. Jan provided a handout of his presentation to visitors and discussed the draft Environmental Assessment recently released for public comment. Jan noted the four principle actions: the construction of a new administration building and parking garage, the acquisition of ~ 5 acres, the construction of a Child Care facility, and the construction of a Stormwater Retention pond. The following questions were asked during and after Dr. Wachter's presentation.

Questions and Answers of the Draft EA

- Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked where the new buildings would be built.
- J. Wachter indicated the north end of the site down Collins Ferry Road.
- Visitor F. Merrow observed that she thought the site already had a ChildCare facility
- J. Wachter noted that the current Childcare center was booming with a long wait list
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked about new employees.
- J. Wachter answered that NETL was allowing for up to 50 new employees in the expansion plans, but that this was not certain.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked if transportation enters into NEPA and if this would be discussed.
- J. Wacther answered yes and that the transportation issues were primarily construction traffic.
- Visitor F. Merrow asked if the parking garage would be 2 or 3 stories.
- M. McKoy noted that it was going to be 3 stories, but now would likely be 2 stories.
- Visitor F. Merrow asked if the new construction would be in the city limits
- J. Wachter answered that the new area would be outside of the Morgantown City limits
- Visitor F. Merrow asked if the Planning Commission would be involved,
- J. Wachter answered that NETL must consider comments if the project was in the city limits, but does not have to accept the recommendations and is forbidden by law from paying fees. It was noted that the land being acquired is listed as B-1 in the local land use plan.
- Visitor F. Merrow asked if the nature trails would be for employees?
- Jan answered that the trails would be for NETL employees and the children of the Child Care facility.
- Visitor J. Cryser asked about the secondary buildings which would be normally expected for a project like the one being considered by NETL.

- J. Wachter noted that the best example might be the new building on the south of the current site (the Research Ridge buildings) and the offices of Fluent, REO, and REM across Collins Ferry Road that is, buildings for site support contractors.
- Visitor F. Merrow noted that is was good to be increasing growth in our local businesses.
- Visitor J. Cryser asked about an earlier plan by a local developer to build a Childcare facility.

Alice noted that this was discussed before DOE received an appropriation to build the facility, but now that DOE had an appropriation to build a new Child Care facility, the plans were to build the facility ourselves.

- Visitor M. Reaser asked how much the proposed expansion would cost the taxpayers.
- J. Wachter answered that it was still early, but expected cost was around 9 or 10 million.
- M. McKoy noted that page 9 or the draft EA contains some cost information.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked about what was happening from NETL's perspective about getting in and out of town.
- J. Wachter noted that NETL has done a lot of traffic studies and that Collins Ferry is congested. NETL gets around one tractor trailer delivery per day.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger questioned the impact of additional traffic for the expanded Childcare facility and the 50 new employees.
- Visitor F. Merrow asked if NETL could use Federal funds to improve Collins Ferry Road.
- J. Wachter noted that such expenditures were not within DOE's budgetary authority.
- Visitor J. Cryser asked what NETL has done to slow down traffic.
- A. Murphy noted that NETL has posted several Intranet announcements to remind employees of the 25-mph speed limit on Collins Ferry Road.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked if the site director allows flexibility in the starting times.
- J. Wachter answered affirmatively, and that this change has eliminated lines of cars exiting the site.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked if NETL was talking to Mylan about related matters.
- J. Wachter answered yes when the impacts effect both entities.

Visitor J. Frisk noted that the 5 acres to be acquired by NETL are in the city limits and are included the current land use classification.

Visitor J. Sneckenberger asked if NETL is pushing against its other boundaries.

J. Wachter answered that the site occupies about 50 acres of its some 130 acres, but that land at the other boundaries is not as suitable for construction.

A. Murphy noted the need to keep the new facility close to the existing NETL services such as the cafeteria and conference facilities.

There being no further questions on the new facilities or the draft EA, Dr. Wachter made a presentation on NETL's pursuit of ISO 14001 certification. Dr Wachter provided an overview of ISO 14001 and talked about NETL's Environmental Aspects and its Environmental Management Plans and performance goals and targets.

Questions and Answers on the NETL EMS and ISO 14001

Visitor F. Merrow noted that NETL was pursuing certification not just for this facility but to promote this across the country.

- J. Wachter noted that DOE wanted to set an example of good environmental stewardship.
- Visitor J. Cryser asked if NETL has any goals such as "reduce by 10%".
- J. Wachter answered that each of the goals he talked about had specific targets.
- Visitor J. Cryser asked about the certification process.
- J. Wachter noted that the certification is performed independent auditors approved by the Registrar Accreditation Board.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger noted that certification processes do work if you have qualified people who are properly trained.
- J. Wachter noted that calibration is part of the ISO 14001 standard.
- Visitor J. Sneckenberger noted that many companies go through certification to ensure that they can sell their products.
- J. Wachter noted that not every company is as philanthropic as DOE in pursuing certification. Private companies that fail to attain or keep their certification might not be able to compete, but DOE would continue to operate.

There being no further questions, Bob Clonch discussed the date and agenda for the next CIG meeting. The group agreed to meet in about six months and asked to discuss the status of the PDU and to continue the discussion on transportation and traffic.